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SENATE MINUTES

October 22, 1979

1257

1. Introduction of a new member of the Faculty Senate and announcement of the secretary pro tem.

2. Remarks by Vice President and Provost Martin.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

3. Committee reports and announcements. Request from student to consult with Senate.

CALENDAR

4. 251 Age for Conferring Emeritus Status (Letter from Vice President and Provost Martin, 10/9/79). Docketed in regular order. Docket number 203.

5. 252 ISU Faculty Council Resolution on Supplemental Salary Appropriations (Letter 10/10/79). Docketed in regular order. Docket number 204.

6. 253 Amendment to Bylaws of the University Faculty Senate (Letter from John Tarr, 10/15/79). Docketed in regular order. Docket number 205.

7. 254 Report from Committee on Admission and Retention (Letter and report 10/12/79). Docketed in regular order. Docket number 206.

DOCKET

8. 249 202 Date for Submitting Final Grades (Letter from Robert Leahy, 10/3/79). Approved proposed deadlines.

9. 251 203 Age for Conferring Emeritus Status (Letter from Vice President and Provost Martin, 10/9/79). Referred to an ad hoc committee to report with recommendations.

The University Faculty Senate was called to order at 4:02 p.m. October 22, 1979, in the Board Room, by Chairperson Tarr.

Present: Abel, J. Alberts, Cawelti, D. Davis, Gadelmann, Gillette, R. Gish, Hollman, G. A. Hovet, Metcalfe, Millar, Schurrer, Schwarzenbach, M. B. Smith, Tarr, J. F. Harrington (ex officio)

Alternates: Bisbey for Thomson, Hoff for TePaske, Schwandt for Wiederanders

Absent: D. Smith

Members of the press were requested to identify themselves. DeEtte Staebell of the Northern Iowan and Jeff Moravec of the Cedar Falls Record were in attendance.

1. Chairperson Tarr introduced Darrel Davis who has been elected to represent the School of Business on the Senate. Tarr announced that Vice-Chair Schurrer would be secretary pro tem due to the absence of Secretary Patton.
2. Vice President Martin addressed the Senate. He announced that we now have an East Gym and a West Gym. He responded to a question as to whether these buildings could be named after people by not ruling out that possibility.

He also indicated that the Board was requesting additional funds for general expense and capital improvements.

Chairperson Tarr asked about the progress of moving items from the Faculty Manual to the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Vice President Martin indicated that most of the material from the Faculty Manual had made the transition. He went on to detail where various portions of the Faculty Manual appear in the Policy and Procedures Manual. Additional material from the Faculty Manual is distributed throughout various University publications such as the Student Policy Handbook, the Graduate Student Handbook, and the Graduate and General Catalogs.

M. B. Smith asked Dr. Martin when the Policy and Procedures Manual would be completed and where the Faculty Manual material dealing with faculty workload now appears. The Vice President replied that the Policy and Procedures Manual is currently in the process of publication. He went on to remark that workload was a subject of bargaining but is not covered in the contract. He added that the old statement on workload has not been transferred to the Policy and Procedures Manual and that no additional reference to workload appears in the revised manual. He continued by stating that when inquiries were made, the official benchmark for faculty workload was given as 12 hours with the understanding that variations due to the type of load and the area or discipline were not uncommon. To a great extent the department establishes its own workload within the limits imposed by size of staff and other such factors.

He stated that he felt it was not the prerogative of Academic Affairs to establish workload but rather that this fell within the province of the departments.

Chairperson of the Faculty Harrington asked what had happened to the list of standing committees and their functions. It was determined that this list occurs currently only in a Fall issue of the President's Bulletin. She also inquired as to whether the Policy and Procedures Manual would be the place to house the Senate Bylaws. Dr. Martin remarked that that was for the Senate to decide. Harrington also asked where the Faculty Constitution would appear. Vice President Martin responded that since the administration could not embrace this document the Policy and Procedures Manual was not an appropriate location.

Old/New Business

3. Tarr informed the Senate that K. DeNault had been elected Chair of the College of Natural Sciences Senate.

Tarr also reported on the formation of the ad hoc Committee to study the composition of the Senate and of those Committees which report to the Senate. He gave the membership of that Committee as follows:

J. Albrecht (Education)
G. Bisbey (Non-instructional)
D. Hoff (Natural Sciences)
D. Kennedy (Humanities & Fine Arts)
M. Krogmann (Social and Behavioral Sciences)
J. Wilmesmeier (Business)

Tarr also reported that Greg Steele of the UNI Student Association had requested that a student representative meet with the Senate at its next scheduled meeting to allow communication relative to the matter of Faculty Evaluation. After some discussion the Senate directed the Chair to arrange such a meeting if the purpose of the meeting was to be informational. However, if the meeting was to produce a request for action, such a request in the form of a motion should come to the Senate through the usual channels.

Calendar

4. 251 Age for Conferring Emeritus Status (Letter from Vice President and Provost Martin, 10/9/79).

Hollman moved, Harrington seconded to docket in regular order.

Dr. Martin suggested that the Senate might also wish to consider Emeritus status for non-instructional staff. Motion passed. Docket 203.

5. 252 ISU Faculty Council Resolution on Supplemental Salary Appropriations (Letter 10/10/79).

Chairperson Tarr distributed correspondence relative to the matter dated October 17, 1979 from Elaine Kalmar, United Faculty President.

Millar moved, Schurrer seconded to docket in regular order. Motion passed. Docket 204.

6. 253 Amendment to Bylaws of the University Faculty Senate (Letter from John Tarr 10/15/79).

Geadlemann moved, Hovet seconded to docket in regular order. Motion passed. Docket 205.

7. 254 Report from Committee on Admission and Retention (Letter 10/12/79).

Abel moved, Schwandt seconded to docket in regular order. Motion passed. Docket 206.

Docket

8. 249 202 Date for Submitting Final Grades (Letter from Robert Leahy, 10/3/79).

The following motion, carried over from the previous meeting, was before the Senate for action.

Effective with the Fall semester 1979 final grades are to be due from the faculty in the Fall and Spring semesters no later than 1:00 p.m. on the third day following the end of the final examination period excluding Saturday, Sunday, and legal holidays when the University is officially closed. Final grades at the end of the summer session will be due at 1:00 p.m. two days after the close of the summer session exclusive of Saturday, Sunday, or legal holidays when the University is officially closed.

David Morgan reminded the Senate that when the pre-Christmas calendar was discussed the hardships incurred by having final examinations so close to Christmas break had been considered and the current calendar was constructed accordingly. It appeared that the only legitimate concern for shortening the grading period was the hardship it imposed on those students whose retention was in question. The effect of the proposed change would be to speed up the grading procedure. Morgan suggested that perhaps faculty in various departments could be polled as to their preference.

After some further discussion the question was called. The motion passed.

9. 251 203 Age for Conferring Emeritus Status (Letter from Vice President and Provost Martin, 10/9/79).

The Senate had before it the following correspondence:

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA · Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

Vice President and Provost
AREA 319 273-2517

October 9, 1979

Dr. John Tarr, Chairperson
Faculty Senate
University of Northern Iowa

Dear John:

Current university rules require that a faculty member must be at least 62 years of age at the time of retirement in order to qualify for the emeritus title. Some faculty members may wish to retire before age 62 after having served the university as long as 20 or 30 years, and denying them the honor of the emeritus title seems rather unreasonable. There was a case last year of a faculty member who served the university with distinction for over 25 years who chose to retire at the age of 55. In this case the President did make a meritorious exception to the rule, but this kind of problem prompts us to bring the matter to the attention of the Faculty Senate for its judgment.

If I may offer a suggestion, it would be that we would confer emeritus status at age 55 after 20 years of service and at age 60 after 15 years of service.

The title of "professor emeritus" is, it seems to me, a highly honorific one in the best sense of the word and, therefore, should not be lightly granted; but we are concerned that the present rule may be unfair in some instances.

Sincerely,

James G. Martin
Vice President and Provost

JGM:d

c: President Kamerick
Mr. Donald Walton
Council of Deans

Chairperson Tarr asked whether it was the will of the Senate to discuss a matter on the same day it had been docketed. Several individuals had expressed concern about such action. In the discussion that followed J. Skaine inquired if the agenda for an upcoming Senate meeting could be distributed to the University Faculty when it was sent to the Senate. The cost of such a move together with a reminder of the recent indication that the Faculty had expressed that it did not find it necessary to receive such material were cited.

Geadelmann noted that since Senators were aware of calendared items which would constitute a potential docket item it would become their responsibility to contact their constituencies and act accordingly.

There was some feeling that since the green sheet was no longer issued weekly the exact Senate calendar is not known to the Faculty.

Gish moved to approve the conferring of Emeritus status at age 55 after 20 years of service and at age 60 after 15 years of service. Seconded by Gillette.

M. B. Smith offered an amendment to insert "at UNI" after "service" at both places in the motion. Seconded by Gillette. After some questions as to whether Emeritus status should be tied to a specific age at retirement and whereas it would not be wiser to confer the designation on the basis of the total number of years of service in higher education rather than only upon years of service at UNI, a vote was taken. The amendment failed.

Gish next moved to amend the original motion by inserting "academic" prior to each use of "service". M. B. Smith seconded. After some discussion this motion was withdrawn.

Further discussion indicated that the intent of the motion was to develop minimal guidelines for the awarding of the Emeritus status. The current policy requires that the faculty member apply for that designation. A particular number of years of service is not required. Gish and Gillette agreed to withdraw the main motion before the Senate and the Senate consented.

Hoff moved that the matter of criteria for conferring Emeritus status be referred to an ad hoc committee of no more than 4 members to be formed by the Chair of the Senate. This committee will confer with the Vice President and Provost and report to the Senate with a recommendation on the disposition of this item. Geadelmann seconded.

There was some discussion as to how the Senate had used its time in relation to this docket item. M. B. Smith again indicated how important it was that matters requiring Senate action be presented in the form of motions which could be amended or acted on before they were moved to the docket. He reminded the Senate that proposals which reached the calendar in non-acceptable form could be handled by standard motions on the green cover sheet and need not be docketed until they were in a form suitable for Senate action.

The question was called. The motion passed.

Gillette moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed. The Senate adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Augusta Schurrer, Secretary pro tem

These minutes shall stand approved as published unless corrections or protests are filed with the Secretary of the Senate within two weeks of this date, 10/29/79.